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Bureau of Water
P.O. Box 19276
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March 2003

Livestock Operations

ILLINOIS DOCUMENTS
CLEAN WATER ACT REQUIREMENTS

MAR 20 2003

- What is required under the new CAFO rules?
- Who must apply for a CAFO NPDES permit?
- Where can I get application forms?



"The Illinois Environmental Protection Agency recognizes that farmers have a long history of stewardship of the land. As livestock production methods change, it is important that environmental management practices keep pace in order to protect our state's valuable land and water resources for future generations."

Renee Cipriano, Director
Illinois Environmental Protection Agency

BACKGROUND

Despite substantial improvements in the nation's water quality since the inception of the Clean Water Act, nearly 40 percent of the nation's assessed waters show impairments from a wide range of sources. Improper management of manure from Concentrated Animal Feeding Operations (CAFOs) is among the many contributors to remaining water quality problems. Improperly managed manure has caused serious acute and chronic water quality problems throughout the United States.

Recent changes in the CAFO program have resulted in new requirements affecting many livestock producers in Illinois. These rules were revised for several reasons:

- Rules written in the 1970s have become outdated as technology has undergone dramatic change since then.
- There was a need to address continued discharges and runoff of manure from all sectors of the livestock industry.
- The new CAFO rules update regulations to reflect structural changes, such as consolidation, in the industry that has occurred since the 1970s.
- The rules target improvement of the CAFO regulations' effectiveness to help correct improper management practices.

WHAT IS REQUIRED UNDER THE NEW CAFO RULES?

In Illinois, the rules may affect some 500 "Large" CAFOs and as many as 2,700 "Medium" CAFOs. Under the permits for these livestock operations, CAFOs will be required to:

- Apply for a National Pollutant Discharge Elimination System (NPDES) Permit;
- Submit an Annual Report; and
- Develop and implement a manure and wastewater-handling plan (Nutrient Management Plan).

WHO MUST APPLY FOR A CAFO NPDES PERMIT?

You will need to apply for a CAFO NPDES permit if you own or operate a “Large” or “Medium” CAFO.

Large CAFOs

You are a “Large” CAFO if your operation has at least:

- 700 mature dairy cows
- 1,000 veal calves
- 1,000 beef cattle or heifers
- 500 horses
- 2,500 swine (each 55 lbs or more)
- 10,000 swine (each under 55 lbs)
- 10,000 sheep or lambs
- 55,000 turkeys
- 30,000 ducks (other than liquid manure handling systems)
- 5,000 ducks (liquid manure handling systems)
- 30,000 chickens (liquid manure handling systems)
- 125,000 chickens except laying hens (other than liquid manure handling systems)
- 82,000 laying hens (other than liquid manure handling systems)

Medium CAFOs

You are a “Medium” CAFO if you have:

- (1) A man-made ditch or pipe carrying manure or wastewater from your operation to surface waters; OR

(2) Animals in contact with surface water in the areas in which they are confined; AND

(3) Your operation has between:

- 200 - 699 mature dairy cows
- 300 - 999 veal calves
- 300 - 999 beef cattle or heifers
- 150 - 499 horses
- 750 - 2,499 swine (each 55 lbs or more)
- 3,000 - 9,999 swine (each under 55 lbs)
- 3,000 - 9,999 sheep or lambs
- 16,500 - 54,999 turkeys
- 10,000 - 29,999 ducks (other than liquid manure handling systems)
- 1,500 - 4,999 ducks (liquid manure handling systems)
- 9,000 - 29,999 chickens (liquid manure handling systems)
- 37,500 - 124,999 chickens except laying hens (other than liquid manure handling systems)
- 25,000 - 81,999 laying hens (other than liquid manure handling systems)

All "Medium" CAFO owners and operators are strongly encouraged to avoid the permitting program by making any necessary changes to their operations that would eliminate manure and wastewater discharges to surface waters, and by restricting animal access to surface waters.

WHERE CAN I GET APPLICATION FORMS?

Applications for NPDES Forms 1 General and 2B are available from the Illinois EPA and are also at:

<http://www.epa.state.il.us/water/forms.html#permits-wastewater>

WHO CAN HELP?

Illinois EPA, Bureau of Water

P.O. Box 19276
Springfield, Illinois 62794-9276
(217) 782-3362
<http://www.epa.state.il.us/cafo/>

Natural Resources Conservation Service Environmental Quality Incentives Program

2118 West Park Court
Champaign, Illinois 61821
(217) 353-6600
<http://www.nrcs.usda.gov/programs/eqip/>

University of Illinois Extension Service

1304 W. Pennsylvania Avenue, Room 332
Urbana, Illinois 61801
(217) 333-3913
<http://www.extension.uiuc.edu/ag/ag-resources.html>

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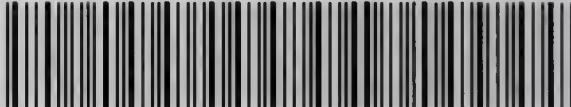
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